project proposals for financial assistance interalia, the technical feasibility and economic viability of the project proposals and the administrative capability of the voluntary organisations are taken into account.

The total amount released by CAPART to Voluntary Organisations upto 31.3.1996 is approximately Rs.278 crores.

The sanctioned projects are periodically monitored by CAPART either through its own officers or through empanelled project evaluators.

(d) As on 31.3.1996, for various acts of omission of commission including misuse of funds, CAPART has blacklisted 226 Voluntary Organisations. In addition, CAPART has also blacklisted 152 Voluntary Organisations which were blacklisted by other Government agencies. CAPART has reported that as per the available records, it has released approx. Rs.5.88 crores upto 31.3.1996 to the blacklisted voluntary organisations. CAPART has also intimated that many such voluntary organisations have had completed the sanctioned project satisfactorily but were blacklisted on account of acts of omission or commission in some later projects. As such, the misutilised amount may be of a much lower order.

To prevent misuse of funds by Voluntary Organisations, CAPART has reported that it has strengthened the santioning, monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Some important steps taken in this regard are as follows :-

(i) With a view to bring it nearer to the grassroot Voluntary Organisations, the functioning of CAPART has been decentralise by setting up six Regional Committees. The Regional Committees have been empowered to consider and sanction project proposals upto an outlay of Rs.5 lakhs.

(ii) National Standing Committees have been constituted to sanction financial assistance to voluntary organistions for their rural development projects.

(iii) The representatives of voluntary organisations have considerable representation on the National Standing Committees and Regional Committees of CAPART.

(iv) CAPART is now appraising/monitoring the projects at various stages, such as prior to funding (pre-funding appraisal), during execution (mid-term appraisal) and after completion of the project (post evaluation).

(v) CAPART has also decided to constitute a National Standing Committee for monitoring and evaluation of the projects sanctioned by it.

Implementation of Projects

848. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council has suggested to lay stress on tapping of resources and also for timely implementation of projects;

(b) whether several projects which have laudable objectives but have not borne fruits due to failure in implementation; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to identify the lacune and remedial measures for timely and effective implementation of these projects during Ninth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the meeting of National Development Council held on 16.1.1997 the various members laid stress on tapping of resources and timely implementation of projects in their speeches. It is a fact that several projects with laudable objectives have been delayed due to slow progress in implementation.

(c) The action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government vary from project to project and time to time. However, the nature of measures by the Govt. in general in the implementation is given in the enclosed Statement. The fresh initiatives taken by the Government for achieving the said targets of project implementation are (i) proposal to introduce on-line monitoring system (ii) prioritisation of projects within available resources (iii) weeding out/privatisation of projects making slow progress and laying more emphasis on accountability in project implementation through the system of Memoranda of Understanding between Govt. and the Chief Executives of project implementing agencies. The approach paper of the Ninth Five Year Plan emphasizes these policies and has been approved by the National Development Council.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original estimates and implementation of projects for reducing overrun.

i) Two-stage project approval.

ii) On line computerised monitoring system is being implemented.

iii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures.

iv) Formation of Empowered Committees with adequate financial powers.

v) Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific projects facing constraints.

vi) Setting up of project management team with tenure co-terminus with the gestation period of the project.

vii) Improving contract management system.

viii) Delegation of powers to field level executives.

Thermal and Hydro Power Plants

849. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of some thermal power stations during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the hydro power plants which are going to be expanded during the above period; and

(c) the additional capacity expected to be added on completion of these power plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) The proposals for capacity addition, including expansion of thermal power stations and hydro power plants, during the Ninth Five Year Plan are presently under examination and are yet to be finalise by the Government. The expected additional capacity would depend on various factors such as project preparedness, availability of financial resources, fuel linkages etc.

[Translation]

Basic Facilities to Slums

850. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL:
SHRI K.P SINGH DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any effective scheme and allocate funds for the overall development and providing basic facilities and solving the environmental problems of slum areas and katra in old colonies of cities in the country particularly in Delhi during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names of the cities including Delhi for which the Government propose to allocate funds for the development and providing basic facilities in the slum areas and katras in old colonies of these cities and the amount proposed to be given to each city separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The States have been provided additional Central assistance for slum development in 1996-97. As far as the Ninth Five Year Plan is concerned, it is yet to be finalised.

[English]

Setting up of Power Projects/Plants in U.P.

851. DR. BALIRAM:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are proposing to set up some power projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details alongwith location thereof;

(c) the total expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government have chalk out any scheme to set up power sub-stations at Azamgarh and Varanasi districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supreme Court Ruling

852. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned Judges do not want Delhi to slum it. Remove four lakh jhuggis. SC appearing in the "Times of India" dated November 21, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court in its order dated 20th November, 1996 in W.P. (Civil), No.286 of 1994 took judicial notice of the fact that in India where about 30% of the people are living below poverty line, the problems of slums in the Urban areas is a natural phenomenon. The Court further observed that primarily it is for the Government of the day to short out this problem, since it is under a Constitutional obligation to provide shelter to the people. The Hon'ble Court had directed the Secretary, Government of India. Ministry of Urban Development to hold a meeting with the concerned Departments/Organisations in Delhi for considering the problems of slums in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and file a report before the Hon'ble Court. Accordingly a report has already been filed in the Supreme Court. The Government is now required to submit a comprehensive plan indicating the time bound programme for settlement of slum dwellers and urban poor. The matter is still subjudice.

Central Electronics Limited

853. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electronics Limited (CEL) has been on the verge of closure;